



**Section on Clinical Psychology
La Section de la psychologie clinique**

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

**June 11, 2009
Montreal, QC**

Members present: David Clarke, Jessica Dere, Deborah Dobson, Keith Dobson, David Dozois, Patricia Furer, Melissa Kehler, Mark Lau, Kerry Mothersill, John Pearce, Christine Purdon, Bob Robinson, Andrew Ryder, Pamela Seeds, Margo Watt

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the June 11, 2009 Annual Business Meeting was approved as written. Moved by Deborah Dobson Seconded by Patricia Furer; carried.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 12, 2008 ABM were approved as circulated. Moved by Trish Furer; Seconded by Melissa Kehler; carried.

3. Report from the Chair (John Pearce)

Section Executive

The Executive Committee for 2008-2009 included: John Pearce (Chair), Deborah Dobson (Past-Chair), Mark Lau (Chair-Elect), Patricia Furer (Secretary-Treasurer), Andrew Ryder (Member-at-Large) and Melissa Kehler (Student Member). The executive had two teleconference meetings (Fall 2008, and Spring 2009) and two in-person meetings (June 2008 in Halifax and January 2009 in Calgary), as well as regular email correspondence and phone contact throughout the year.

Section Initiatives and Activities

The Clinical Section has continued its advocacy for the profession and support of students. The Section has had continued involvement with CPA Board including representatives to the Professional Affairs Committee and the Prescription Privilege Task Force (Kerry Mothersill). The Section has worked with 7 other sections and CCPPP on co-sponsorship & nominations for speakers.

The Section continues to strive to improve communication with its membership in a number of ways including the enhanced electronic newsletter. On behalf of the Section, Dr. John Pearce expressed his appreciation to Drs. Bernstein and Watt for their ongoing contribution as co-editors of the newsletter. He presented Dr. Watt with a card and monetary token of appreciation. The Clinical Section continues to be involved in management of media requests. The media requests come from Head Office and are

given to designated experts in the relevant field. Apparently, work on the Section website and listserv, which is managed by CPA, is ongoing.

Dr. Pearce reported that the results of the 2009 Membership survey are now available. [See Student Section for synopsis of results.] He also mentioned the allocation of \$5000 for special projects. One of the questions on the survey was: “At the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Clinical Section, \$5000 was set aside for special projects. What would you like to see the Section do with this money?” The most frequent suggestions (themes) were:

- *Advocacy/Lobbying/Pt Education
- *Training/Educational Activities/Workshops / Research Suggestions
- Awards/Support/Grants for Students Attending CPA or Student Research Projects or Other Student Activities
- Research Funding (money or advocacy for funding)
- Networking/Practitioner Network Development/Communication
- Internship, Clinical Program, or Registration Improvements
- Improve Clinical Section (Website, Meetings, Task Forces, Collaboration)

John suggested that the results highlight the need to assume a more active role in advocacy. The suggestion was made that hosting a workshop in training and advocacy might be an option or, perhaps, sponsoring a series of public education addresses during Psychology Month (February). Preferably, these addresses might target broad topics of general interest along the lines of Michael Vallis’ talk on obesity at the convention in Halifax. Keith Dobson suggested that in order to ensure consistency, it might be a good idea to have an expert develop a lecture, which can then be delivered by local speakers. Deb Dobson suggested that a definition of advocacy is required. Apparently, CPA uses a broad definition. Andrew Ryder suggested that putting the addresses online (podcasts) would broaden their dissemination. Kerry Mothersill concurred that web-based provision of information would enhance dissemination to the public and suggested the need for improvements to the website. Student member Pamela Seeds offered from her experience at the University of Western where they have promoted “Advocacy through Action” via a series of public lectures. Unfortunately, according to Pamela, they have run into a lack of funding to support this initiative.

Convention Program

Dr. Pearce addressed the continued pursuit of excellence in the Clinical Section CPA 2009 Convention program. He highlighted the Public Lecture and Master Clinician workshop provided by Dr. Philippe Cappeliez which was well received if not particularly well attended. The Clinical Section co-sponsored the CPA Invited Speaker, Dr. Laurence Kirmayer, as well as a number of other presentations and activities in the regular conference program. Dr. Kerry Mothersill represented the Clinical Section in *Preparing for your Internship*. Dr. Pearce explained that 3 of the 9 pre-conference workshops had been cancelled including one, which was to be conducted by Dr. Richard Tremblay, which had been co-sponsored by the Clinical, Psychologists in Education, and

Developmental sections. Dr. Pearce made it clear that the Tremblay workshop was cancelled by the speaker, not by the Sections.

Task Force Updates

- Dr. Pearce expressed appreciation to Dr. John Hunsley for following up on the 1998 Empirically Supported Treatment Task Force. There appears to be a consensus of opinion that advocacy for evidence-based practice in mental health should be the focus. Dr. Robinson suggested that evidence-based methodology or evidence-based practice are preferable terms to evidence-based treatment.
- Dr. Pearce expressed gratitude to Dr. Kerry Mothersill for representing the Section on the CPA Task Force on Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists in Canada. Dr. Mothersill explained that the group has met 4-5 times since November to review the literature in the area. He said they have been looking at American models and plan to consult with American practitioners. Apparently, 2 states – Louisiana and New Mexico- have privileges on a limited basis. Dr. Mothersill explained that different models (and levels of privilege) are being considered. The task force will continue to meet over the upcoming year with the deadline for the report being 2010.

4. Report from the Student Representative (Melissa Kehler)

Melissa Kehler mentioned efforts to enhance contact with student members via the Clinical and Student Section Listserv servers, as well as the Newsletter.

Clinical Section Travel Award

She reported that there were 12 eligible applicants for the Clinical Section Travel Award. She submitted a request that the Section increase the amount of the awards to \$700, \$400, and \$400 (up from \$500, \$200, and \$200). This was approved by the members.

Clinical Section Student Grant

Melissa reported that there had been five applicants for the Clinical Section Student Grants. She explained that they were all excellent, activity-based projects and that this year's grant was awarded to Jillian Filliter from Dalhousie University for her project entitled: *Diversity Awareness: Working with Diverse Populations in Clinical Practice*.

Dr. Robinson suggested that referring to the grantee as the “recipient” versus “winner” of the award provided a better reflection of the calibre of applicants.

2009 Clinical Section Member Survey Results Summary

Melissa also reported on the results of the online survey. Approximately 275 people responded providing valuable information on the composition, needs, and interests of our members. A handout summarizing the results of the survey was circulated.

5. Report from the Member-at-Large (Andrew Ryder)

Fact Sheets

Andrew Ryder reported that, to date, there are 42 Fact Sheets on the CPA website authored by Clinical Section members. Unfortunately, it seems that the fact sheets are difficult if not impossible in some cases to access. Apparently, only Google searching will work in some cases. Andrew said that the fact sheets continue to be CPA reviewed.

Initiatives for 2009-2010

Andrew proposed the initiation of a Scientist Practitioner Early Career Award for the Clinical Section. He suggested that candidates would be within ten years of graduating and have demonstrated outstanding performance in one domain, solid proficiency in the other, and/or an integration of the two. Christine Purdon suggested that criteria for such an award should model an academic timeline (i.e., pre-tenure or pre-full professor).

6. Report from the Secretary-Treasurer (Patricia Furer)

Membership report

Patricia Furer reported that, as of May 1, 2009, the Clinical Section has 1047 members (387 students) up from 962 (and 352 student members) last year. This 9-10% increase represents continued growth in membership.

Listserv

Patricia reported that the Listserv is set up differently now and that only executive members can post notices. On the other hand, it is now possible to post in both English and French. Apparently, CPA is centralizing the listserv.

Financial Statement, June 7, 2008 – June 11, 2009

Patricia reported that the Clinical Section continues to be in a solid position financially. The 2008-2009 year-end financial statement indicated that there is \$18,938.93 in the chequing account and \$11,500.00 in GICs. The total assets of the Clinical Section are \$30,438.93. Income from membership dues was higher than anticipated because of our increased membership, and expenses for the 2008 pre-convention workshop expenses were lower than budgeted.

Proposed Budget, 2009-2010

The proposed budget for 2008-2009 was reviewed. Total income is projected to be \$12,125.00 with total expenses of \$19,100.00. The budget includes new funding for Student Representative conference travel costs (\$1000, up from \$800), Student Travel Awards (\$1000, up from \$900), Ken Bowers Student Award (\$1000, up from \$750), Special Grant for Advocacy Issues (\$5000), and Early Career Scientist-Practitioner Award (\$1000). Kerry Mothersill moved that the proposed budget be accepted; seconded by Mark Lau; motion carried.

7. Report from the Chair-Elect (Mark Lau)

Submissions to the 2009 CPA Annual Convention

Mark Lau reviewed the submissions for CPA 2009. He noted that there were similar numbers of submissions as last year. There were a total of 119 poster submissions with

114 accepted; 5 workshop submissions, 4 accepted; 6 theory review submissions, 6 accepted; 12 symposia submissions, 12 accepted; and 7 conversation sessions, with 6 accepted.

He expressed appreciation to the 23 individuals from across Canada who reviewed this year's submissions:

Dave Aboussafy	Anna-Beth Doyle
Carolyn Abramowitz	Mark Ellenbogen
Barb Backs-Dermott	Nicole Fairbrother
Karen Brozina	Susan Graham
Sandra Clark	Lance Hawley
Kate Corcoran	Peter Hoaken
Deb Dobson	David Hodgins
Kevin Jones	John Pearce
Lorne Korman	Alberta Pos
Stewart Longman	Adam Radomsky
Randi McCabe	Steve Swallow
Tanner Mellings	

It was noted that with the large number of accepted oral presentations (across the Sections) there are many concurrent sessions at the Convention. This makes the conference expensive and may also result in some sessions not being well-attended. It was noted that CPA is encouraging increased posters and decreased oral presentations.

Section Awards

- ***Clinical Section Fellow 2009***

In recognition of his important contributions to clinical psychology and the Clinical Section, the Section has awarded the status of Fellow to David Dozois, an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Western Ontario. Dr. Dozois is an active researcher and student trainer and was present to receive his award.

- ***Clinical Section Ken Bowers Award for Student Research***

The 2009 Ken Bowers Award for Student Research was awarded to Ms. Eleanor Donegan of Concordia University. Eleanor Donegan from Concordia University for her most meritorious submission entitled: *Cognitive-behavioural therapy and applied relaxation for generalized anxiety disorder: A comparison of changes in worry, somatic anxiety, and depressive symptoms during treatment.*

John Pearce thanked the individuals who reviewed this year's submissions for the Ken Bowers Award: Dr. Nicole Fairbrother, Dr. Michelle Haring, & Ms. Brandi Willett

8. Report from the Past Chair (Deborah Dobson)

Clinical Section Executive Elections

Patricia Furer was elected by acclamation as Chair-Elect of the Clinical Section Executive for 2009-2010. Margo Watt was elected by acclamation as Secretary-Treasurer of the Clinical Section Executive for 2009-2011.

Congratulations and a warm welcome was extended to Jessica Dere of Concordia University, the inaugural winner of the first election for student representative. The web-based election was deemed to have been a success. Kerry Mothersill moved that the ballots be destroyed; seconded by Mark Lau; motion carried.

9. Thank You to Outgoing Members (John Pearce)

On behalf of the Clinical Section, John Pearce conveyed our sincere gratitude to Deborah Dobson and Melissa Kehler for their considerable contribution to the Executive (most recently as Past-Chair and Student Representative, respectively). Each was presented with a certificate of appreciation.

10. Calls for Proposals for Winnipeg 2010 (John Pearce)

Members were encouraged to propose speakers/topics for the 2010 CPA Convention which is to be held in Winnipeg. This includes ideas for a keynote speaker, pre-convention workshop, master clinician workshop, public lecture, and symposia. It was noted that the 1010 convention will conflict directly (in terms of timing) with the World Congress of BCT.

11. Adjournment (John Pearce)

The meeting was adjourned. Moved by Patricia Furer; seconded by Andrew Ryder.

Submitted by

Margo C. Watt, Ph.D., C. Psych.
Secretary-Treasurer
CPA Clinical Section